[*Translation*]

Modernisation of Coal Mines in Bihar and MP

4626. DR. G.L. KANAUJIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for modernising collieries in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh for the safety of miners there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). The modernisation of the coal industry is a continuous process and is taken up progressively in both underground and opencast mines. The modernisation is being done gradually by introduction of modern mining methods which are primarily directed towards production, productivity, recovery of coal, safety of mines etc. In the coal mines in M.P., Bihar and other States where coal mining operations are being carried out modernisation has been effected through systematic planning which inter-alia has contributed towards improved ventilation, transportation/loading systems, surface roof support, lighting etc. Hazardous manual job elements are being reduced for better safety.

Production and Consumption of LPG

4627. DR. S.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of production and consumption of L.P.G. annually; and

(b) the ratio in which LPG is being distributed in rural and urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Production and consumption of LPG during 1989-90 and 1990-91 is given below:-

(In 1000 tonnes)

Year/Period	*Production*	*Consumption*
1989-90	1948	2268
1990-91	2144	2417

(b) No separate data on ratio in which LPG is distributed in rural areas and urban areas are maintained.

Gradation of Coal

4628. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has improved the gradation of the Coal produced during the last three years and if so, since when and the details thereof;

(b) whether the price of Coal has also increased due to it ; and

(c) if so, the additional amount earned by the CIL as a result of upgradation of Coal, so far?